

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3 and 13-20 are cancelled.

Support for each amended claim is found at the originally filed claims and throughout the originally filed specification. Additionally, support for the feature of present Claim 2 "... a polyol having a number average molecular weight of from 500xF g/mol to 1000xF g/mol" is found, for example, at page 1, lines 10-11, by combining the range of "40xF g/mol to 1000xF g/mol" with "500xF g/mol" to arrive at "500xF g/mol to 1000xF g/mol." Support for the feature of present Claim 5, "m is an integer and ranges from 7 to 31" is found, for example, at originally filed Claim 5. Applicants note that although that formula (X) contains the integer and formula (XX) contains the integer m, the integer m in formula (XX) is a typographical error that should have read n instead of m, as shown by the claim language "in each case with the following meaning of n." That this typographical error occurred in originally filed Claim 5 is further supported at page 7 of the originally filed specification, wherein for both formulae (X) and (XX), the integer is n and in both cases, n ranges from 1 to 31.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

The indefiniteness rejection of Claim 8 is believed to be obviated by the amendment of Claim 8 to recite "A process for producing a polyurethane, comprising reacting the mixture of claim 2 with at least one isocyanate to form the polyurethane." Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The anticipation and obviousness rejections of Claims 1-20 as being unpatentable in view of Malz are respectfully traversed because Malz does not describe or suggest all of the features of the present claims and, in fact, "teaches away from" features of the present claims.

The rejections of Claims 1, 3, and 13-20 are obviated by cancellation of these claims.

Present Claim 2 contains the feature "...a polyol having a number average molecular weight of from 500xF g/mol to 1000xF g/mol." Applicants respectfully submit that Malz does not describe or suggest this feature, and in fact, "teaches away from" this feature. At paragraph 17, Malz describes in part "According to the invention, the connecting residue (II) of the invention has a number-average molecular mass of from 75xF g/mol to 250xFg/mol, preferably from 100xF g/mol to 200xF g/mol,...where the term F is the number of active phenolic groups (I) in the molecule." Because the invention of Malz has at most a number-average molecular mass of 250xFg/mol, Malz cannot describe or suggest a connecting "polyol having a number average molecular weight of around 500xF g/mol to 1000xF g/mol," and in fact, Malz "teaches away from" this Claim 2 feature. Accordingly, present Claim 2, and present Claims 4, 6, 7-8 and 12 that depend from present Claim 2, cannot be anticipated by or rendered obvious in view of Malz. Withdrawal of the anticipation and obviousness rejections is requested for these claims.

Additionally, the anticipation and obviousness rejections of present Claim 5 and the claims depending therefrom, in view of Malz, are respectfully traversed because Malz does not describe or suggest all of the features of these claims, and in fact, "teaches away from" these claim features.

In present Claim 5, the polyol in formulae X and XX linking the two acid containing groups contain the integers n and m, where n ranges from 11 to 31 and m ranges from 7 to 31.

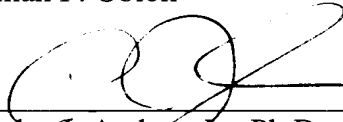
The polyol for n = 11 would have a molecular weight of = 502 (e.g., the polyol unit is 2 carbons + 4 hydrogens + an oxygen = MW of 24 + 4 + 16 = 44; 44 x 11 = 484; 484 + the addition oxygen (16) + 2 additional hydrogens, one for each alcohol end group, = 484 + 16 + 2 = 502 g/mol molecular weight). Applicants note that F = 2 for structure X. Malz, at paragraph 17, describes that the number-average molecular mass of, at most, 250xF g/mol =

500 g/mol for $F = 2$. Accordingly, Malz does not describe or suggest formula (X) wherein n ranges from 11 to 31, and in fact “teaches away from” this formula. Similarly, for formula XX, when $m = 7$, the molecular weight of the connecting polyol is 522 g/mol. As described above, Malz does not describe or suggest formula (XX) wherein n ranges from 7 to 31, and in fact “teaches away from” this formula. Accordingly, Malz cannot anticipate or render obvious present Claim 5, and Claims 9-11 that depend from present Claim 5. Withdrawal of the obviousness and anticipation rejections is requested for these claims.

Applicants submit the present Application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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